

### **REMARKS**

As a preliminary matter, applicants note that box 15 (claim for domestic priority) of the Office Action dated November 20, 2002 has not been checked off by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner check off this box, or equivalent box, in his subsequent correspondence, such as in a Notice of Allowance. Reconsideration and further examination of the subject patent application in light of the present Amendment and Remarks is respectfully requested.

The abstract of the specification has been amended, as suggested by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the Office Action. No new matter has been added. The specification has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions in paragraph 2 of the Office Action.

Claims 1-172 are currently pending in the application. Claims 14-140 and 153-172 have been previously withdrawn from consideration, and claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 141-152 stand rejected.

### **Claim Objections**

Claims 2, 8, and 143 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. Applicants submit that claim 2 is correct as presently recited because the phrase "devices comprise" is in proper grammatical format. Because the term "devices" is plural, the term "comprise" should remain singular. This is also applicable to original claim 9.

### **Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112**

Claims 145 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, as set forth in paragraphs 4-5 of the Office Action. In view of claim as presently amended, applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. The claim has been amended, as suggested by the Examiner. Note that the phrase "adopted" has been replaced with the term "adapted" in claims 8 and

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 141-152 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Pou, as set forth in paragraphs 6-7 of the Office Action. In view of the claims as presently amended, applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Pou does not disclose a printer that is capable of attaching value-adding devices selectively to media samples, as is recited in claim 1 and allowed claim 7 (now amended). Pou merely teaches an example of a typical thermal-type printer. For example, claim 1 of Pou recites a thermal print head have print elements with associated resistance value, and a microprocessor for discerning resistance patterns in the print elements. The specification of Pou teaches the basic thermal printing technology, and has nothing to do with the printer technology of applicant's claimed invention. Although Pou and applicant's invention may both be classified in the printer class, they are very different. Virtually all of the elements of applicants' claims are missing from Pou, accordingly, Pou cannot anticipate applicants' claimed invention

For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits an early Notice of Allowance. Should the Primary Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Primary Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.


The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit

Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 11, 2003